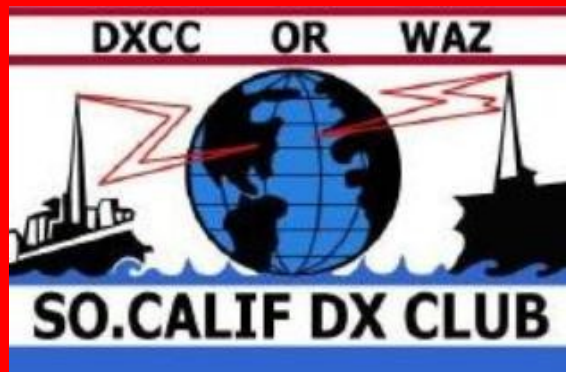




62 Years of DX-cellence

December 2010



BULLetin

The Southern California DX Club

*"If you need him get
in there and work
him"*

The Southern California DX Club is a group of dedicated men and women active in the amateur radio community who enjoy communicating over the air with other radio amateurs around the world.

The newsletter is published every month and is released to its members about the first of each month. Amateur and DX related letters, news and pictures are welcome and will be published as time and space permit.

Articles may be republished with the recognition of the author and the club. Reuse of copyrighted materials require the original author's permission.

Any questions regarding this newsletter or its articles should be addressed to the editor, Bill
n6rv@scdxc.org

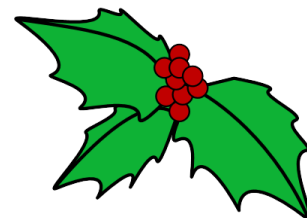
Meetings are held on the second Thursday of the month at 7:30 PM except April, June and December.

Please check the club web site for events and details at
<http://www.scdxc.org>

If you are in the area please say hello on our repeater
W6AM/R145.48,(-) 100Hz PL



**NEXT MEETING
HOLIDAY PARTY !**
December 5, 2010
11:00 PM to 4:00 PM!



There is still time to make a last minute reservation!
Please join us and enjoy the camaraderie of the season!

- **W6PBF SK**
- **2011 Board Nominees**
- **SCDXC.org is Back Up!**
- **Yemen & Tromelin!**
- **We Always Need**
Reporters
Articles
Interesting Tidbits

Making friends all over the world using the magic of Amateur Radio.
Sponsors of the International DX Convention, since 1949

PETER FLUSSER, W6PBF



It is with great sadness that we report the sudden passing of our dear friend and fellow SCDXC member, Peter Flusser. Peter regularly attended club meetings and events. Both he and his wife, Bobbi, made the annual trek to the Visalia IDXC. As many of you recall Peter's skill as a photographer was showcased in the last two patches for the conventions we hosted. Peter's designs won hands down. The last patch was by far the best one ever made (*Editors bias. Still I have to say it*). The comments from conventioners bore this out. His love of amateur radio was equally evident. Peter researched the latest equipment and antennas always updating and tweaking his station. He could be heard on 20 meters chatting with DX and on the local club repeater. As another one of the quiet members behind the scenes Peter was always there to help. If it was putting away chairs or running for a bag of BBQ briquettes that was needed in a pinch he was there.

Peter's passion for life spilled over into his career. He and Bobbi built a wonderful business that took them to many exotic places. His face lit up when he spoke of his company. He truly loved what he was doing and with his lifelong companion spent many hours honing an expertise few possess.

Of course the real love of his life is his wife Bobbi. They truly were a team. You rarely saw one without the other.

I am sure that everyone who reads this and knows Bobbi and Peter sends their deepest condolences. Always someone you look forward to talking with at the meetings, and never without something very interesting he was engaged in, Peter will be greatly missed.

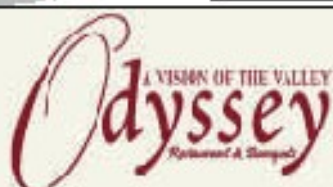
Rest well my friend. It was always a pleasure.

... :-





SCDXC
HOLIDAY PARTY
December 5, 2010



Date: December 5, 2010
Time: 11:00 am to 4:00 pm
Where: The Odyssey
15600 Odyssey Dr
Granada Hills, CA 91344
818.366.5817

Sunday Buffet Brunch \$35.00 ea.



www.theodysseyrestaurant.com

Variety of delicious foods to choose from

We suggest that you make arrangements for carpooling for those that do not want to drive long distances or can't drive. Don't miss the fun! *Driving instructions, please visit website at:* www.scdxc.org

Cut registration form here



Registration Form
The Odyssey Restaurant
December 5, 2010

Deadline for returning Registration Form: November 22, 2010

Name: _____ Callsign _____

Number of guest including yourself _____

Sunday Buffet Brunch \$35.00 x _____ = \$ _____ enclosed

Checks payable to: SCDXC and Send To:

Cathy Gardenias K6VC - 20902 Gardenias Street - Perris, CA 92570

k6vc@scdxc.org

MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

It is that time of year again! Here is the membership renewal form.



Southern California DX Club, Inc.

Membership Renewal []

New Member Application []

Date _____

Name _____ Birthday (MM) _____ Call Sign _____

Spouses Name _____ Birthday (MM) _____ Call Sign _____

Mailing Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Telephone Home: (_____) _____ - _____ [] Do not list in club directory

Work: (_____) _____ - _____ [] Do not list in club directory

E-mail: _____ [] Do not list in club directory or web site

Have you confirmed 40 CQ Zones? Not yet: [], Yes [], I have a WAZ certificate: [].

Have you confirmed 100 Countries? Not yet: [], Yes [], I have a DXCC certificate: [].

Are you an ARRL Member? No: [] Yes: [] Life: []

Renewal Membership, Full or Associate - \$18.00 USD Per Calendar Year (Jan – Dec)
(Additional Family Members \$4.50 USD ea)

Overseas / Supporting Membership - \$18.00 USD Per Calendar Year (Jan-Dec)

New Membership, All Types - \$1.50 Times the Number of Months Remaining in Year
(Example: Join in September, pay 4 x \$1.50 – Family Members @ additional 25%)

BADGES

Small: (1.5"H X 2"W) [] Medium: (2"H X 3"W) [] Large: (3"H X 3.75"W) []

\$9.00 USD ea including postage (to US addresses)

For badge shipping costs to overseas locations contact Mel Hughes, K6SY at k6sy@scdxc.org.

Make checks payable to Southern California DX Club or SCDXC

Mail Membership Fees and/or Badge Fees to:

Mel Hughes, K6SY, 28017 San Nicolas Dr., Rancho Palos Verdes, CA 90275

For club use only

Dues recvd by _____ Amt \$ _____ Date _____ Full Member []

QSLs verified by _____ Date _____ Associate Member []

DXCC _____ WAZ _____ Former Member _____ At-Large Member []

Notes: _____ Supporting Member []

Sept 01, 2009

2011 Officer Nominations

It is hard to believe that another year is nearly gone! It has been a great deal of fun working with the current board and we know that the next board will follow in kind. Below are the nominees selected by this years board. The board is still going over the candidates for VP. The board recommendation will be announced in next months newsletter. As you know any full member can throw his hat into the ring. Please let our secretary know if you desire to run for any office. Also included below the list of nominees is the paragraph in the Officer Guidelines Manual that describes the nomination process.



2011 OFFICER NOMINEES

President	John Schroeder, N6QQ
Vice President	(TBD)
Secretary	Steve Shane, W6NRQ
Treasurer	Cathy Gardenias, K6VC
Director	Ernie Nairne, N6HY
Director	Bill Kendrick, N6RV
Membership Chairman	Mel Hughes, K6SY

2.0 Elected Office Duties and Responsibilities

The Club Board members are first nominated for office by the Nominating Committee which consists of the Board and announced in the December issue of the Club newsletter. Nominations are accepted from the floor at the election meeting. Each nominated position is then voted upon by the voting members present using an open or secret ballot. Elections are held during the January general membership meeting. The Board members will prepare a ballot to backfill any elected position that becomes empty. Officers are elected for the term (February to February). Board members are encouraged to attend all Club Board and general membership meetings. Normally all officers are elected for one term but with Board approval may succeed themselves. All e-mail directed to the Board of Directors should be acknowledged and should be responded to in a timely fashion by each Board member. The officers should meet as many times as required to conduct club business but, as a minimum, have at least 2 board meetings a year. The Board may, If convenient, use email during the year for some Club business.



THE PREZ SEZ
Larry Mallek, K6YUI,
President – Southern California DX
Club
[**k6yui@scdxc.org**](mailto:k6yui@scdxc.org)

Treasurer's Report
Club financial information is available on request. Contact the treasurer.

Officer Guidelines
The revised version of the Officers Guidelines is available on our website. See the

Hello everyone I hope you all had a great Thanksgiving.

As most of you know we had a problem on the internet the last few weeks with our club WEB site. We lost our server, but thanks to Jim – N6DHz our great WEB Master we now have a new WEB site and are back on the internet. Some of the e-mail address's are still not working along with the calendar and club roster but all these problems are being worked on by Jim. Many of us that use the club forwarding e-mail service were off the air for a little time.

Well by the time you all read this newsletter the club Holiday party will be on us. So far we are over the 60 mark with just under half of those YL's. Sure are looking forward to seeing everyone on the 5th of December. Remember there will be no regular meeting in December.

The bands have been going up and down, but due to the ZL8X operation and a few more PJ operations there have been some great openings on all bands. It seems that W6VX and N6HY don't have much of a life as both of them have worked the ZL8X station on about every mode and bands.

Remember that at the January meeting we will be voting on a new board for the club and as so if anyone would like to try out being an officer of the club to let W6NRQ-Steve know. Also Letters nominating someone for the DXer of the year must be in Steve's hands before the January meeting. Also if you are going for the Clipperton award you must have your cards checked by a board member before the January meeting.

Well that's it for now and if I don't see you at the Holiday Party I hope you have a great time leaving 2010 and going into 2011.

73 for now

Larry Mallek K6YUI President SCDXC

Officer Guidelines

http://www.scdxc.org/download/Officer_Guidelines.pdf



VICE PRESIDENT'S CORNER

John Schroeder, N6QQ,
Vice President – Southern California DX Club
n6qq@scdxc.org

Hello Everybody!

Anyone looking for a new SX-99? We got to see the rebirth of a receiver that was in parts at the September Boat Anchor Auction. Wayne's talk about maintaining your newer radios is a must for everyone. I took off the cover of my Acom 2000A and found the fan was over half full of dust. I was lucky that the fan was still working. Thanks Wayne for stepping up and giving the presentation.

This month contests include:

ARRL 160 meter CW - Dec 3 to Dec 5

ARRL 10 meter - Dec 11 (Looks likes we might get some action this year)

OK DX RTTY - Dec 18

Our Holiday Party is almost here. If you have not sent in your reservation there is still time. Last check there was 62 people attending. Do not miss the fun! I Look forward to visiting with everybody at the brunch.

As this is our short month I will keep the column short!

Till 2011 - have a great Christmas season.

73, John N6QQ Vice-President, SCDXC

Alvin Toll, W6JNU

Last week we received word that new member Al Toll was in the hospital diagnosed with lung cancer. Doug, W6HB, sends this update.

I just got off the phone with Al. He has lung cancer in one lung and has started chemo. He and the XYL have moved out of their home and into a retirement facility for the near term. They are having the radio gear, antennas and household goods all packed up for an impending move to Tennessee to live with their son.

He can be reached at 714-963-2045. Call first and then plan your visit if you can. His current address is 17077 San Mateo Street, Apt #3109, Fountain Valley, CA 92708.

Doug, W6HB

We wish you a speedy recovery Al and a safe journey to Tennesse. You are in our thoughts and prayers.



DXer of The Year
Congratulations Ernie
N6HY!
The Clipperton
Award
Congratulations Rich



THE EDITOR

Bill Kendrick, N6RV,
Editor – Southern California DX Club
n6rv@scdxc.org



New Members

Please welcome new members:

Gabriel Calfas
K6AWB

Diana Feinberg
AI6DF

Gene Brewer
W5DQ

Rick Crosmer
W6ENZ

Roger Merideth
K6GVO

Linda Souder
KD6HYN

Rob Reichman
WA3IHV

Lloyd Hendrickson
K6QNY

Arnold Schwartz
WB6PJC

Stan Thornton
K16QM

David Lopez
N6RI

Mark Willardson
N6OUZ

Barry Fitshe
N6VOH

Mary Gray
KH6VZ

Timothy Coker
N6WIN

*Make sure you meet
and greet them at the
next meeting!*

Hello My Fellow DXers!

When it rains it pours! First we had a website meltdown and as I began working on the newsletter my computer I use to create the newsletter crashed when using Internet Explorer 8 for the first time. After many days of loading and reloading Window, drivers, and applications the computer is working... actually better than it did before the crash. All the garbage that builds up in those temporary files are gone. All the applications never used are gone and it is a clean slate! Hopefully this months newsletter did not suffer too much because of the week it took to get everything up and going. I lost Photoshop CS3 but I found that the new Photoshop Elements 9 is much better and meets all my needs!

Has everyone worked the ZL8X group? They are going strong! I sat down for a few minutes today and worked them on 10 band/modes even on some bands that I have no antenna. Boy that is a good operation! Every contact was crisp and executed like the DXpeditions we have come to expect! Good job fellows!

Also ZK2A has been out and about on RTTY. Isn't interesting the things you hear when you point your antenna to the South Pacific?

For those who are tracking the sunspots the numbers are definitely on the rise. The trend charts on www.solarcycle24.com reveal that the rise is still below estimates and the Solar Flux Index is not correspondingly rising. Could it be there is more to this propagation stuff than we know?

Remember that this month is the Holiday Party and there will be no meeting on the second Thursday.

Please look over the list of nominees on the earlier page. If you have even an inkling about running for office I encourage you to do so. Contact Steve, W6NRQ, and submit your bid.

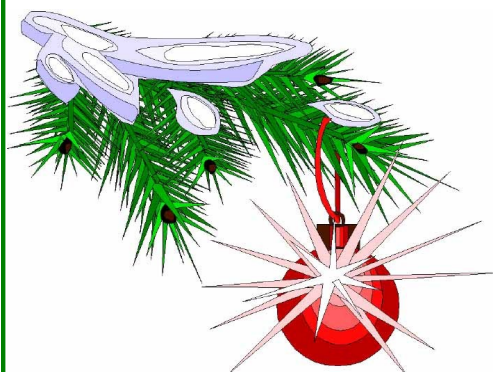
See you at the Holiday Party! If you can not make it there have a wonderful and happy holiday season.

73, de N6RV

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RUMORS ON THE BAND

A plethora of announcements, rumors, and serious DX fun



As always December is the dark month for DXing. There are some contests but most DXers are at home celebrating the season. That said there are two contests that may rally some DX. The ARRL 160 Meter contest starts on December 3rd. Traditionally it is a local contest (US, Canada, Mexico mostly) however with the new entities maybe we will hear from the PJs and there are

several other DX stations active if you listen. With things livening up on the sun the ARRL 10 Meter Contest may bring out the DX! It is always fun to work the gazillion South American stations and we should expect openings to Japan and Asia in general.

Blue Information indicate particularly rare entities and **Red information** indicate SCDXC member attended DXpedition. As always you have to turn on your radio to work them.

Useful DX Sites

N0HR DXpedition Map
www.n0hr.com/wk34/

The DX Zone
www.dxzone.com/catalog/DX_Resources/

The Daily DX
www.dailydx.com/

Announced DX Ops
www.ng3k.com/misc/adxo.html

DXing.info
[/www.dxing.info/dxpeditions/](http://www.dxing.info/dxpeditions/)

DX 425 News
www.425dxn.org/dxped/

Dx-info.de
www.dx-info.de

DX Italia DX News
www.marioi2mqp.it

DH9SB Weekly DX Calendar

Call	QTH	Start Date	End Date	Information	Website
9Q6CC	Congo	Now	11/30/2010	CX2CC SSB, CW, RTTY	-
VK0KEV	Macquerie Island	Now	11/30/2010	VK0Kev 18 months SSB, RTTY, maybe CW	-
5X1XA	Uganda	Now	12/1/2010	G3XAQ HF CW 100W	-
PJ5/SP6IXF	St. Eustatius	Now	12/3/2010	SP6IXF 160-10 SSB, CW, RTTY	-
zk2a	Nuie	Now	12/3/2010	IK1PMR, PA3LEO, LA9SN, N6TQS, K6SRZ, SP5UAF 160-40m, 30 17 12m CW RTTY	http://www.pacificdxpedition.com/
ZL8X	Kermadec	Now	12/5/2010	DJ5IW, DJ9RR, DK1II, DL1MGB, DL3DXX, DL5CW, DL5LYM, DL5XL, DL6FBL, DL8LAS, DL8OH, SP5XVY, SV2KBS 160-10m CW SSB RTTY	http://www.kermadec.de/
ZD9	Tristan Da Cunha	Now	12/6/2010	DL2AH, SSB RTTY Low Power Windom	-
ZS8M	Marion Island	Now	4/1/2011	ZS1HF working trip on the air when possible. Several spots on 40m.	-
YA	Afghanistan	Now	5/30/2011	KD5NOI (T6JC) & K5TLL (T6TL) 40-10 SSB & Digital	-
ZD9	Gough Island	Now	9/1/2011	ZS1LF	-
9Q50ON	Congo	12/3/2010	12/13/2010		http://www.9q50on.be/
H40	Tometu	12/21/2010	1/23/2011	DK9FN (H40FN), DG1FK (H40FK)	-



DX ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Celebrate the Successes of Our Fellow Members!

Updates

Remember to Send in Your Updated Standings

Since there will be two more countries added to the deleted list and four new entities added to the DXCC list it seems like we should be busy updating the DXCC standings. Be sure to send them in! Thanks to those who already submitted!

SCDXC WAZ and DXCC Standings (N6RV)

The first of the two large numbers represent the number of confirmed zones on the 9 HF bands 160-10 (less 60 meters). The next column contain the following codes:

M **Mixed**
P **Phone**
C **CW**
R **RTTY**
5 **5 Band**

If you have any information to post please email me:

N6RV@SCDXC.ORG



WAZ STANDINGS

	<u>9B / 5B</u>	<u>Awards</u>
EU7SA	355 / 200	M/5
N6AW	355 / 200	M/P/C/5
WA5VGI	352 / 200	M/P/C/5
W6VX	352 / 199	
K6FG	345 / 196	M/P/C/R/5
W6SR	342 / 200	M/P/C//5
W8DX	339 / 200	M/5
K6YUI	337 / 200	M/P/C/R/5
W6YOO	303 / 200	M/P/C/5
K6YRA	280 / 200	P/5
KC6X	278 / 200	M/C/5
N6RV	268 / 183	M/P/C
K6LD	271 / 172	M/P
KR6C	264 / 166	M/C
KJ6Y	261 / 172	
WD6L	248 / 200	M/P/5
K6SY	246 / 173	P
K6GXO	227 / 193	M
N6OU	220 / 200	M/5
N6DHZ	214 / 160	P
KH6DX/m	210 / 184	
NS6C	/ 198	
N6MXU	155 / 193	
K2PLF	191 / 191	
K6KII	191 / 177	M
W6IRD	181 / 147	M/P
W6NRQ	180 / 147	M/P
K6IRD	154 / 126	M/P
WA6BOB	152 / 136	M
K6IRA	118 / 102	
W3SE	102 / 112	
K6VC	96 / 96	P
W6EA	92 / 86	
N6VNI	86 / 64	
KA6TTV	82 / 67	
N6UC	78 / 78	M
N6GIL	49 / 43	
W6DCK	40 / 40	P
WB6PSY	40 / 40	P
K6JW	40 / 40	M/P
KT6LA	40 / 40	
K6YR	39 / 39	
NZ6L	36 / 36	
N6HE	35 / 35	
W4EF	29 /	
N6AWD		M
N6HC		M/P/C
KB6KTV		P
W6OES		M
K8RD		C
K6UNR	/ 200	M/P/5

DXCC STANDINGS

	<u>TOT / CUR</u>
K6KII	382 / 338
JA1BK	377 / 338
K6YRA	372 / 338
K6EXO	370 / 338
N6UC	365 / 338
K6YUI	360 / 338
NS6C	355 / 338
N6AW	355 / 337
W6HT	358 / 338
W6SR	353 / 338
K6IPV	353 / 334
WA6WZO	352 / 338
K8RD	351 / 338
K6FG	351 / 338
K5KT	350 / 338
K6GXO	350 / 338
K2PLF	349 / 338
N6RV	349 / 336
W8DX	348 / 338
W6OM	347 / 337
W6AUG	345 / 338
KC6X	344 / 337
W6YOO	344 / 334
W6OES	344 / 329
W6KK	343 / 338
W6VX	343 / 338
N6AWD	343 / 336
K6LD	343 / 338
W6DCK	342 / 336
WB6PSY	342 / 333
EU7SA	340 / 336
KB6KTV	340 / 335
WA5VGI	342 / 336
KR6C	338 / 335
N6HC	338 / 333
N6OU	334 / 329
N6HY	333 / 329
W6IRD	327 / 324
K6UNR	333 / 332
W6QE	332 / 324
KM6HB	328 / 325
KJ6Y	327 / 323
K2IXQ	324 / 325
K6SY	312 / 310
AD6KQ	299 / 299
WD6L	295 / 292
W6HB	291 / 285
N6DHZ	286 / 284
W6NRQ	284 / 284
N7CQQ	268 / 266
N6MXU	267 / 265
K6JW	253 / 251
K6YR	244 / 244
K6GEP	239 / 226
K6DJ	236 / 236
K6HCJ	235 / 235
K6IRD	229 / 229
K6GEP	229 / 226
K6VC	227 / 227
KT6LA	202 / 202
WA6BOB	202 / 198
N6VNI	195 / 195
KA6TTV	145 / 145
N6HE	145 / 140
K6OGO	142 / 142
W6EA	138 / 138
W6WVW	134 / 134
W4EF	132 / 132
K6LX	125 / 125
WA6NOL	112 / 111

Chip Margelli, K7JA

Named CQ Communications Director of Advertising Sales and Marketing



Charles H. 'Chip' Margelli, K7JA, has been appointed Director of Advertising Sales and Marketing for CQ Communications, Inc., it was announced yesterday by company President and Publisher Richard Ross, K2MGA.

Chip will join the CQ staff on December 1, 2010, and will be responsible for advertising sales for CQ Amateur Radio, CQ VHF and Popular Communications magazines, as well as marketing efforts for all CQ Communications products.

Chip succeeds Don Allen, W9CW, CQ and CQ VHF Advertising Manager; and Arnie Sposato, N2IQO, Popular Communications Advertising Manager, both of whom are retiring at the end of 2010. Advertising sales for WorldRadio Online will continue to be coordinated by Jon Kummer, WA2OJK.

Chip brings to CQ more than three decades of experience in the amateur radio industry, including nearly thirty years with Yaesu (now Vertex Standard) and, more recently, four years with Heil Sound. He is fluent in Japanese, German and Spanish (as well as English).

An active ham for more than 45 years, Chip is known worldwide as a champion contester, DXer and DXpeditioner. He is currently active on all amateur bands from 1.8 through 1300 MHz, and is a 2008 inductee into the CQ Amateur Radio Hall of Fame. Chip and his wife, Janet, KL7MF, live in Garden Grove, California. Outside of amateur radio, Chip enjoys photography and astronomy, and is a marathon runner.

"I am absolutely thrilled to be joining the CQ Communications organization," Chip says. "The CQ family of action-packed magazines is widely respected throughout the world of amateur radio and shortwave listening, and to be a part of this dynamic communications group is the opportunity of a lifetime!"

"Chip will be able to relate to our advertisers and prospective advertisers in a unique way," notes CQ Publisher Dick Ross, K2MGA, "having been in their shoes, working for both a major and a mid-sized manufacturer. Plus, he already knows and is well-known throughout the amateur radio industry, so he will be able to hit the ground running."

"As we welcome Chip," Ross continued, "we sadly say farewell and thank you to both Don Allen and Arnie Sposato. Don and Arnie each have represented all three of our print publications over the course of their many years at CQ. Their combined knowledge of the industry and of the people behind the nameplates is unparalleled and we will miss them greatly. We wish them both only the best in retirement."

CQ Communications, Inc., based in Hicksville, New York, publishes CQ Amateur Radio, CQ VHF, Popular Communications and WorldRadio Online magazines, in addition to CQ books, videos and related products. It also sponsors a comprehensive series of operating awards and contests. Its flagship magazine, CQ Amateur Radio, has been in continuous monthly publication for more than 65 years.

(Congratulations Chip! Good Luck in your new position! See you at Visalia!)

2010 TOP TEN MOST WANTED COUNTRIES

North America West Coast

#3 70 Yemen



Last month we looked at an ancient culture with the autonomous region of Athos in Greece. This month we will look at another region whose origin extends well into prehistory. Yemen was home to one of the oldest civilizations in the Near East. Earliest records indicate that the region, which is about the size of California and Pennsylvania combined, was inhabited by Sumerians. Later, around 2300 BC, it became completely Semitic. Some traditions indicate that these people migrated to Mesopotamia and formed the Northern Semitic cultures that are normally associated with that group. Separated by the Arabian Desert the Southern Semitic culture was cut off from the North. Most of their association with other re-

gions was through trade with the Phoenicians along the Red Sea. Eventually they migrated and their influence spread to what is now Ethiopia and Eritrea. The region was home of the Biblical Queen of Sheba. Yemen was controlled by six successive civilizations from 1200 BC until 630 AD when Islam was introduced to the region.

Ancient Yemen was the source of frankincense and myrrh, aromatic gums valued for funeral and medicinal purposes. These were traded throughout the Egyptian, Greek, and Roman Empires. Relatively speaking the area is much more arid than the surrounding regions and was developed for agriculture with vast waterways and dams. For centuries it was also a transfer point for goods from the Far East, which came by ship to Aden and then were sent overland to the Mediterranean Sea, Mesopotamia, and Egypt.

It was during Muhammad's lifetime that Yemen came under the rule of the Arab-Islamic Caliphate. It was one of the first provinces of the Islamic Empire. Interestingly enough it was a Zaidi imam in 897 AD that established a Shia'a dynasty that lasted until the mid-twentieth century. Of course many empires claimed the area over that period and actually ruled over it as much as could be exerted. In 1517 AD the Ottoman Empire exerted control over the region but was challenged by the Zaidi imamate. The Turkish Army was expelled to small regions along the coast. The interior highlands remained under the control of the Zaidi Imamate. As this dynasty crumbled the Ottomans moved along the coast to the northern region eventually taking the city of Sana'a as its capital. The southern region was established by the British Empire whose British East India Company forces captured the port of Aden for a coaling station en route to India. Under the guise of reducing piracy and in response to an attack on a vessel under the their flag Britain formed the protectorate of Aden in 1839. Eventually the region grew into what was formerly known as South Yemen. After the Suez Canal opened in 1869 Aden again became a strategic port in the region. The Ottomans and the British eventually established a border between North and South Yemen. North Yemen came under Ottoman rule and South Yemen under British rule. The presence of both empires was a rally point for the Zaydi imamate which was never fully subdued. The imamate actually controlled everything outside of the cities much like what is happening today in Afghanistan.

North Yemen became independent of the Ottoman Empire in 1918. The region was ruled by imams until 1962 when a military coup backed by Nasser of Egypt and the USSR took place. The junta established the new country, The Yemen Arab Republic, assigned the prefix 4W. The prior government backed by Saudi Arabia and Jordan was defeated completely in 1969.

Britain maintained the protectorate of Aden well into the 20th century. In the 60s Britain fought the National Liberation Front, a leftist group backed by the USSR. After the temporary closure of the Suez Canal and with the increased tensions South Yemen lost its strategic significance. In 1967 Britain withdrew. Three years later, under heavy Soviet influence South Yemen adopted communism becoming the only Marxist state in the Arab world. The Peoples Democratic Republic of Yemen was established and was issued the prefix 7O. The massive exodus of hundreds of thousands of Yemenis from the south to the north contributed to two decades of hostility between the countries nevertheless the two governments were not completely at odds. In 1990, after 300 years of separation, and when Soviet Union financial support dried up the two countries merged, forming The Republic of Yemen which retained the prefix 7O. The North Yemen government took a dominant role in the new republic which to this day does not settle too well with the south.

The region remains fairly unstable, prone to disputes among rival factions. Some have cited that Saudi Arabia, from fear that a unified Yemen would be a threat to their security, contributed to the instability. Some references cited Iran as the opposition backer. As mentioned earlier the Zaydi imams are Shia'a and a strong Shia'a presence remains in Yemen. Supporting rebels from their sect though not of the same ethnicity is a plausible explanation. The current Shia'a rebel group called The Houthi Movement believe that the government controlled by North Yemen is backed by Sunni Saudi Arabia. After six years of fighting the rebels agreed to a cease fire in 2009.

The leftist influence in South Yemen produced a hatred for the West which remains to this day. Yemen is a haven for al-Qaeda. Osama Bin Laden is of Yemeni descent. It is believed that they are setting up an operational hub and bases similar to ones in Pakistan. The USS Cole was attacked by al-Qaeda supported operatives in Aden while refueling. Around the same time the news reported an attack by a CIA Predator drone in Aden. A car carrying top al-Qaeda leaders was destroyed. Since the Houthi cease fire Yemen has been making efforts to diminish that presence.

Last but not least the Gulf of Aden is still a haven for piracy and kidnapping for ransom is prevalent in the region. Somalia is the principle offender nevertheless Yemen borders the same waterway.

Amateur Radio

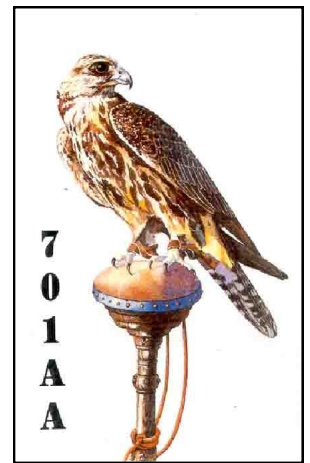
Prior to the merger the two countries were fairly inactive. Some of us recall the two entities. North Yemen, though rare, had a resident ham. 4W1AF could be found on 15M and 20M SSB. South Yemen under the influence of the USSR was totally inactive.

There have been three significant DXpeditions to The Republic of Yemen. Each lasted only a few days. Also two individuals ventured to the country on their own. Some claim that the Ministry of Telecommunications has never issued an amateur radio license. That is difficult to believe given the first group of operators came from Kuwait. It included a Sheikh. The ARRL DXCC approved operations are listed to the right. For officials not familiar with the hobby the concept of a license for the hobby may be inconceivable. The answer you receive as well as the history of license issuance is highly dependent on who you talk to, how long they have been there, and how long ago the operation took place. Some of the inquiries were made 15 years after the operations.

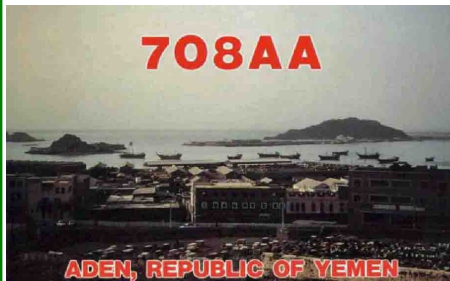
Yemen Activity History (7O)		
Date	Call Sign	Operators
5-6/1990	7O1AA	9K2CS
		9K2DR
		9K2EC
7-8/1990	7O8AA	F2VX
		F6EXV
4/2000	7O1YGF	DK1II
		DL5EBE
		DK9KX
5/2002	7O/OH2YY	DJ7MG
8/2007	7O/OH2YY	OH2YY
	7O/G4HCL	G4HCL

7O1AA (9K2DR, 9K2EC)

The first DXpedition shortly after the formation of the Peoples Republic of Yemen was carried out by three Kuwaiti amateurs. Sheikh Mohamed Al-Sabah, 9K2CS, Abdul Al-Ajeel, 9K2EC, and Mohamed Al-Holy, 9K2DR, Director of the Kuwaiti Association for Amateur Radio travelled to Yemen to demonstrate the hobby. They operated for several days with openings to the West Coast. The operation was approved by the ARRL. It is hard to claim that this operation was not valid given the individuals involved. The sheikh was compelled to return to Kuwait. Saddaam Huessein had attacked his country.



7O7AA & 7O8AA (F2VX & F6EXV)



Paul, F6EXV, and Gerard, F2VX travelled to Yemen and operated there in August 1990 from Aden. Very little about this operation was found on the web. The operation was approved by the ARRL DXCC desk.



7O1YGF (DK1II, DL5EBE, DK9KX, DJ7MG)



On April 17-26, 2000 four German DXers, Franz, DK1II, Dom, DL5EBE, Hans, DK9KX, and Bernd, DJ7MG put 7O1YGF on the air. Franz worked for a German oil company and had business with Yemen. He met with Yemeni officials and obtained verbal permission to operate with a guarantee of written authorization after they arrived. When they arrived they were told that the written permission would be in hand at the latest before they left. They operated from the Hallibur-

ton building in the diplomatic quarter of Sana'a. This area was a prime target for terrorist and was heavily defended by security forces. Electrical power was reliable and a back up generator available. Their equipment included three Icom 735s, a 706MKII and a TL-922A amplifier. The roof of the building was accessible and they were able to put up two LP5 log periodic antennas for 20-10, an R7 vertical, dipoles for 40, 80, 160 and a 4 element yagi for 6. In 9 days they made nearly 35,000 QSOs on SSB, CW, and RTTY. They operated around the clock each taking shifts at the two stations. They slept at the Crown Suites a 5 star hotel in Sana'a Haddah. It is a tough path for the West Coast to work them even when they stood by at peak times. They did work many W6 and W7 stations even some with wire antennas and 100 watts. On the 10th day of operation the Ministry of Telecommunications requested that they stop transmitting. It seems their office was inundated with faxes from around the world asking if the operation was legitimate and why they were authorized to operate when others were not. The ministry could not perform their regular duties. Again the competition to activate an entity and unfettered inquiries tanked a DXpedition in progress. They had to terminate the operation and were unable to present written authorization to the ARRL for a long time. Almost 10 years later the ARRL did accept the operation. You can read about the trip in the two NCDXF articles listed below.

https://www8.qth.com/~ncdxforg/newsletters/NCDXF_09FWNewsletter.pdf

http://www.ncdxf.org/newsletters/Authenticating7O1YGF_4web.pdf

7O/OH2YY (2002)



Pekka, OH2YY, was granted permission to operate from Sana'a while on a business trip from May 7-11, 2002. He applied for permission to operate amateur radio during his visit. He received written confirmation, dated April 23rd, to transport his radio equipment and to operate. Pekka brought his FT840 transceiver, a FinnFet 1001 amplifier, and a Cushcraft R5 vertical with him. Pekka also strung up a wire antenna for 160-40. He was found on 80, 40, 20, 17, 15, 12, and 10. It was a SSB only operation. His QTH was near Sana'a outside of the city in a residential district. It was above existing terrain having a clear

shot to the north over the valley. The ARRL accepted his application for DXCC accreditation in 2005.

7O/G4HCL (2002 & 2007)



Chris Lorek, G4HCL, travelled to Yemen on business. He was given written permission to operate on all HF bands under supervised conditions by the Director of Communications at the government run Sana'a International Airport. Chris was active August 14-15 2007. It was reported that he ran a commercial radio, Codan 9360 running 125 watts into a commercial Transworld Radio Linear Amplifier at 1 KW to a biconical monopole antenna with an extensive ground screen. The station is located at the airport. The first day he operated from the Operation control facility a kilometer from the physical transmitter.

Audio and control was via land line. The next day he operated from the transmitter site. Reports indicated his signal was very weak. He worked very few stateside stations, possibly one, a few United Kingdom stations, several Europeans and several 9M6 stations. All of the QSOs were on SSB. He operated split but the transceiver did not have incremental tuning. Stations that were calling slightly off frequency caused problems as well as the usual jammers. Chris also had problems with guarantee contacts. One station worked him several times for insurance. This kept some needing the entity out of his log.

Other reports indicated that Chris operated in 2002 from the airport and made a handful of contacts. Checking the ARRL no indication that either operations were accredited. Correspondence from Chris to 9M6DXX indicates that Chris was asking how to submit the paperwork. Furthermore since the permission was from the Airport Authority and not the Ministry of Communication Chris felt accreditation might not be granted.



Operations Not Accepted by the ARRL

Several operations were not accepted by the ARRL. The principle reason was the lack of any documentation.

DL4HAL (1082)

DL4HAL visited Sana'a in December 1982 and made 13 QSOs. No documentation was submitted for this operation.

4W0PA (1989)

4W0PA was a doctor in the North Yemen capital of Sana'a prior to the unification of the country.

7O0A (1990)

Paul Bavassano, I1RBJ, was active as 7O0A in January of 1990 prior to the unification. No indication given why this operation was not accepted as the deleted country. Possibly no documentation was submitted. Again the deleted South Yemen was never activated.

7O1A (1996)

Franz Langer, DJ9ZB and Zorro JH1AJT were also active from the southern city and former capital of South Yemen, Aden in December 1996. This was one of the most controversial operations. Franz and Zorro did receive written permission and submitted it to the ARRL. It was rejected because the paperwork came from the southern administration and not the Ministry of Telecommunications in Sana'a. Recall that there were factions within Yemen opposed to the unified government and the Houthi Movement had a great deal of influence in the south. Possibly the explanation lies in that conflict. The ministry in the north did not recognize any authority in the south and denied the license was valid. This is very unfortunate as the two DXpeditioners did go to great lengths to get there and operate. They also obtained documentation that, to the best of their knowledge, was valid. Again the political nature of licensing reared its ugly head and the ARRL could not accept the operation. The lack of accreditation was challenged by Zorro during the DXCC forum at the International DX Convention in Visalia to no avail.

Our fourth most needed country may remain on the list for some time. Given the tension in the region, the difficulty obtaining a license and bringing in equipment along with the bulls eye painted on the antennas that are put up expect this country to possibly rise to the top as did South Yemen when under Soviet influence.

Now let's look at another uninhabited chunk of sand nearby. Tromelin is yet another austere uninhabited entity in the Indian Ocean.



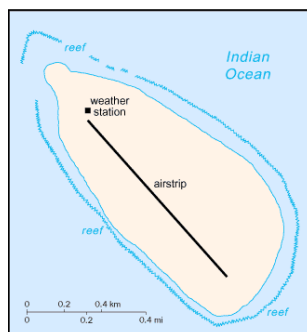
#5 FT5T Tromelin Island



Tromelin Island is a low, flat, scrub-covered sandbank about 1.1 miles long and 0.43 miles wide. The 200 acre island is about 1.7 times the size of the Washington D.C. Mall and located about 220 miles east of Madagascar. The island is 23 feet high at its highest point. There are no harbors or anchorages and access by sea is difficult. Access to the island is via a 13,900 ft airstrip. It is a French territory. It is claimed by Mauritius and Seychelles. It is a nesting site for seabirds and turtles and supports a weather station which warns of cyclones, and is visited by meteorologists from Réunion. Tromelin has an 110,000 sq mile Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ) contiguous with the Réunion EEZ.

History

The island was first recorded by a French navigator in 1722. The French ship *Utile*, carrying slaves from Madagascar to Mauritius, ran onto the reefs of the island in 1761. The crew reached Madagascar on a raft, leaving some 60 slaves on the desert island. Fifteen years later, in 1776, the chevalier de Tromelin, captain of the French warship *La Dauphine*, visited the island and rescued the survivors — seven women and an eight-month-old child. Tromelin Island was occupied by France in 1954 while it was part of Mauritius.



Ham Radio

When DXpeditions began in earnest it appears Tromelin was one of the first rare places visited. The first DXpedition was in 1954 and many followed. Most of the operations were from personnel living on Reunion who travelled to the site. A few hosted expeditions to the island. The operations found on the internet are listed to the right. Unfortunately records for many operations are sparse to say the least. Many QSL cards are available on the web but it seems few posted journals of their trip. Note that the last operation was over 10 years ago. This would be a great place to activate!



Tromelin Island Activity History (FR/T)

Date	Call Sign	Operators
11-1954	FB5BK/T	Mark Jouanny
03-1963	FR7ZC/T	W4BPD
10-1970	FR7AI/T	Yoland Hoarau
03-1971	FR7ZU/T	Jaques Quillet
02-1967		
03-1969		
05-1974		
07-1974		
02-1977		
02-1979	FR7ZL/T	Guy P. Rhodiére
		FR0FLO FR7BP N6ZV AA6AA
09-1980	FR0FLO/T	
08-1982	FR7BP/T	John Bouygues
09-1987	FR7CG/T	Jean Louis Mardet
09-1987	FR5ES/T	John River
05-1991	FR5AI/T	Yoland Hoarau
03-1992	FR5ZU/T	Jaques Quillet
05-1993	FR5ZQ/T	Henry Namtameco
		F4PXT, Eric F5PYI, Laurent F5NOD, Gil
08-2000	FR/F6KDF/T	

FB5BK/T Nov. 1954 T Marc Jouanny

The only information found on this operation is the QSL card to the right. Marc apparently resided in the area and visited Europa and Glorioso as well. Marc was either a military or civilian employee supporting the facility



FR7ZC/T Gus Browning W4BPD (1963)

Gus did go to Tromelin and he did operate. Two photos of the facility were found on the web showing Gus sitting on a marker for the island is shown on the left. It seems he had to do some finagling to get transportation to and from the island. The flights were booked for the military and it cost him \$1500 in 1963 for the gas and trouble. Again not much was found on his travels.



FR7AI/T Oct 1970 Dec 1974 & 1984 T Yoland



FR7ZU/T Jaques Guillet (Mar 1971)



FR7ZL/T (Feb 1967 May 1969 May July 1974 Feb 1977 Feb 1979)

FR0FLO/T AA6AA N6ZV FR5FLO FR7BP and FR7BP/T John Bouygues (Sept 1980)



One of the few operations with some minute amount of information on the web occurred in 1980. It was a large endeavor which produced 11,000 QSOs. The reason that this DXpedition stands out is that two of the operators, Steve Orland, AA6AA, and Don Jones, N6ZV were from California and, as a matter of fact, were members of SCDXC! Actually Steve was vice president in 1981. Don travelled a second time to the Indian Ocean and operated from the Comoros. Sadly

he let his license lapse. Steve is also inactive though QRZ.com lists him as the holder of the AA6AA call sign. Maybe someone who knows them could invite them to a meeting? This group did add Tromelin to many club members DXCC standings. John, FR7BP, was one of the team members and also operated with his own call sign.



REUNION ISLAND
FR7CG/T

TO RADIO	DAY	MONTH	YEAR	UTC	MHZ	RTT	2-WAY
FGAXP	13	8	22	1735	21	53	718

The I. #101-1000

Am: **17**

MARIDET Jean-Louis
IP 4
W440 STE CLOTILDE

FR: The DSO: **R**

FR7CG/T Jean Louis Maridet (Aug 1982)

LA REUNION
FR5ES
JEAN MARDET - SAINT DENIS

LA REUNION - TROMELIN
FR5ES/T

CALL FOR TROMELIN TO THE 21-0000 HOURS (UTC) (21-0000 HOURS)

NAME	DATE	TIME	MODE	RTT	2-WAY
FR5SWA	08/09/89	21	16	54	042
FR5SWA	07/09/89	21	16	54	042

FR5ES/T Sept. 1987



FR5AI/T Yoland Hoareau ex FR7AI (May 1991)



FR5ZU/T FR5ZU Jaques Quillet (Mar 1992)

REUNION
FR5ZQ/T

Service de Protection
TROMELIN
de la RAUNION

TO RADIO	DATE	GMT	FREQ	MODE	RTT	2-WAY
F2VX	03 MAY 1992	1345	21 MHz	SSB	56	73/10m

FR5ZQ/T Henry Namtameco (May 1993)



FR/F6KDF/T Eric F4PXT, Laurent F5PYI, Gil, F5NOD, (Aug 2000)

From the QSL cards it is obvious that several amateurs have activated this island. Possibly some time soon a large expedition will find its way to this remote location. Since the only means of arriving safely is by airplane and the only airline authorized to land there is a government hop from Reunion Island, a team from France more than likely will take the point. The expense would probably be similar to the K5D DXpedition. Much of the resources needed to support a large operation would have to be flown in. Since this is a nesting place for turtles and rare birds I am sure that the French Department of Conservation would be involved.

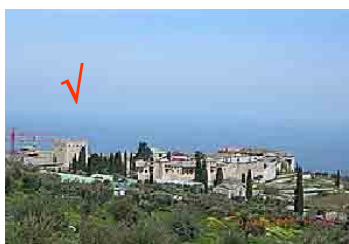
It is sad that not much information about the past DXpeditions is available on the web. Possibly the information would be archived in old DX Journals or even QST or CQ Magazine. It would be nice to put together a good story about each operation. For now we will have to make do with the information at hand. If you have any information please forward it. I would like to make this a web article and put it on our website as a living document.

So this completes the top five most wanted entities from the West Coast. Again it was not our intention to write such long columns. The information particularly for Yemen was so interesting as it applied to DXing that it had to be included. You can see how a few millennia of history can affect the present. Here in America it seems we have disconnected ourselves from the issues of our genesis from other countries. This is possibly due to our highly mobile society. We can pick up and relocate from one end to the other. Also we have lived in relative safety. Yemen on the other hand has been in turmoil for hundreds of years. The people have not settled into a peaceful existence. The wounds of the past still carry memories.

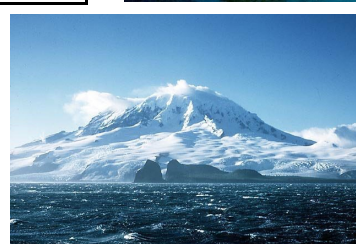
As far as Tromelin is concerned well... if it weren't for the economic zone it probably would be just another deserted island of no concern and basically ignored. It does raise the question. How many islands like Tromelin are out there? Can any of them count for new entities. Of course if one did it exist it would instantly become a place of interest and one group or another would spend a large bag of cash to put it on the air. That is just what we do. It is small wonder that some hams are rich. They buy property in the sticks for a dream station and magically towns spring up around them then the property skyrockets. Maybe someone visiting one of these remote places will stumble on something really valuable. The opportunity exists for those who just happen to be there! For everyone who stays at home opportunity has to fall in their laps.

The next two entities are an ice cube and one of the most inaccessible places in the world and equally inhospitable once you are there. The second place is a US possession that is nearly impossible for hams to permission to land on but probably flooded with Haitians who fled the recent earthquake. Heard Island and Navassa Island are two virtually uninhabited entities.

See you next month!



2010 TOP 10 NEEDED COUNTRIES NORTH AMERICA WEST COAST		
1	FT5G	GLORIOSO
2	SV/A	MOUNT ATHOS
3	P5	NORTH KOREA
4	7O	YEMEN
5	FT5T	TROMELIN
6	VK0/H	HEARD ISLAND
7	KP1	NAVASSA
8	T5	SOMALIA
9	FT5Z	AMSTERDAM
10	FT5/JE	JUAN DE NOVA/EUROPA



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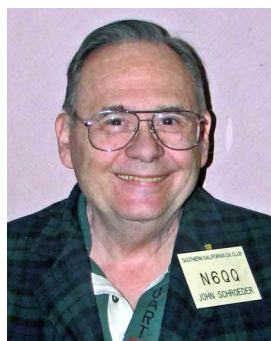
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RSVP: RV Dry Camping reservations for vendors: sboskovich@dc.rr.com Vendor Set-up time 7:00-9:00 AM

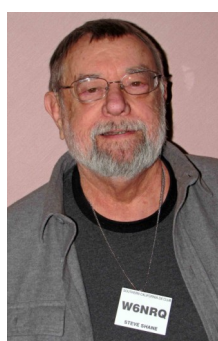
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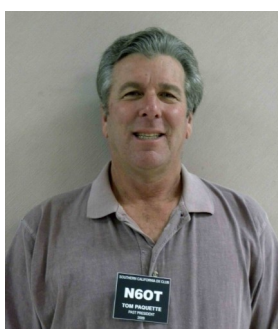
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